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**REMARKS**

Applicant's invention is set forth in pending claims 1-15, each of which includes a recitation of "a low expansion member press fit around an outer periphery of" an outer ring, or an outer ring member, which has a coefficient of linear expansion which is lower than the coefficient of linear expansion of the outer ring or ring member.

Such a recitation is provided in independent claims 1, 2 and 4.

A similar recitation is provided in claims 3 and 5, which set forth "a low expansion ring press fit around an outer periphery of the outer ring member" which has a coefficient of linear expansion which is lower than the coefficient of linear expansion of the outer ring member.

As noted in applicant's prior response to the Official Action, filed October 1, 2002, a full response to the Action is impossible in view of the numerous defects and errors in the Action. It is respectfully submitted that a proper response to applicant's paper is to remail a corrected action which, pursuant to MPEP §710.06, should be "correspondingly redated."

As no such remailed action has been received, and in order to avoid possible prosecution relating to propriety or impropriety of the failure of the Office to respond to applicant's previous (timely filed) response, applicant provides herewith a response to the rejections set forth in the Action to the extent such a rejection could be understood and that a response thereto is possible.

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However, in an accompanying Petition, applicant requests the Commissioner to exercise his supervisory authority and to correct the records of the Office, if necessary, to reflect applicant's prior response and to issue a belated corrected action, simultaneously with refunding funds submitted herewith in provisional payment of a fee for extension of time.

In rejecting the claims, it is noted that the Examiner rejects all claims under 35 USC 103 over combinations of various references. However, although the various rejections are incomprehensible as noted in applicant's paper of October 1, 2002, and thus cannot be responded to, it is apparent that in each rejection the Examiner asserts (paragraphs 5, 11, 19, 26, 33 of the Action) that the recited feature of "a low expansion member" is disclosed in Takemura et al. USP 5,880,545, referring to bearing cylindrical ring 303 shown in Fig. 16.

The Examiner also applies the Pujari reference as providing balls of ceramic material, and asserts that various other references disclose the structural features of the motor structures of claims 1-5 and dependent claims 6-15, which each incorporate the low expansion member and ceramic materials.

It is respectfully submitted that, irrespective of any disclosure (such as found at column 5, lines 15-16) in Pujari '894 of an "All Ceramic Bearing" in which "each of inner ring, outer ring and roller elements are made of ceramics", the claim rejections fail to find support in the applied art.

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More specifically, as noted above each of applicant's claims require a member having a low expansion characteristic. However, the '545 reference applied in the Action, which is purported to disclose this feature is, in fact, devoid of any teaching of the same. Upon studying the specification of the Takemura '545 reference, no teaching can be found of a "low expansion" member as asserted. Nor does the specification provide any disclosure, or use, of terminology such as a "coefficient of linear expansion". Indeed, throughout the specification, the only use of the term "low" or "lower" is found to describe a position, but not a value comparison of a physical characteristic.

In support of the assertion the Examiner relies on the description of Fig. 16 in '545, and states that element 303 therein is "a low expansion member (bearing cylindrical ring) (303) which is press fitted around the outer periphery of the outer rings (304 and 305) in order to seal the motor".

However, upon studying thoroughly the description of Fig. 16, it is submitted that element 303 is simply disclosed as being a "Bearing Cylindrical Section", without any reference to its coefficient of linear expansion, or any teaching that such coefficient should be lower than the coefficient of linear expansion of the outer ring member of bearings 304-305.

Applicant provides herewith marked copies of Fig.16 and related Fig. 17, identifying the components thereof as disclosed in the '545 specification. No reference

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to expansion coefficient is shown, as none is made in the specification, either for bearing cylindrical section 303 or for any other component.

Therefore, it is submitted that the Action has simply assumed, without any supporting disclosure in the referenced '545 patent, that bearing cylindrical sections are inherently and necessarily of lower expansion coefficient than the outer ring associated therewith.

In other words, the Action has concluded that the subject matter of applicant's claims (in their entirety) would have been obvious, without identifying any basis for the conclusion of obviousness. As such, the Action fails to make a *prima facie* showing of obviousness under 35 USC 103 by failing to identify support in the prior art for the assertion that the subject matter of applicant's claims would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made.

Accordingly, withdrawal and reconsideration of the rejection is in order and the same is courteously solicited.

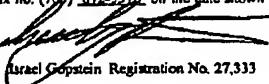
Inasmuch as the previously noted defects in the Official Action make it impossible to respond to other aspects of the rejections, applicant cannot at this time respond thereto. However, typographical errors noted in claims 3 and 5 are corrected by the present amendment.

Having thus responded to the extent possible, and in view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance over the art of record and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. In order to expedite

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resolution of any remaining issues and further to expedite passage of the application to issue, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed local telephone number if any further comments, questions or suggestions arise in connection with the application.

Respectfully submitted,

<b>CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION</b>	
I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, TC 2800, Fax no. (703) 872-9318, on the date shown below.	
January 3, 2003	
Israel Gopstein Registration No. 27,333	

Israel Gopstein  
Registration No. 27,333

P. O. Box 9303  
Silver Spring, MD 20916-9303  
(301) 438-9600  
(301) 438-9700 (fax)  
Date: January 3, 2003